

CLASSIFICATION [REDACTED]

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COUNTRY Germany (Soviet zone)TOPIC Military Information from Schweinrich Maneuver Area.

25X1 EVALUATION [REDACTED]

PLACE OBTAINED [REDACTED]

25X1

DATE OF CONTENT 16 September to 12 October 1950

25X1 DATE OBTAIN [REDACTED]

DATE PREPARED 6 November 1950

REFERENCE [REDACTED]

25X1

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) [REDACTED]

REMARKS [REDACTED]

1. The camp in the Schweinrich (N 54/U 22) maneuver area consists of non-winterized temporary barracks with wooden sidings and without stoves. In the spring of 1950 the camp could accommodate 12 units with a total of about 10,000 troops. In the course of the summer the camp was enlarged to quarter five more units. The buildings available for each unit included two kitchen and mess buildings, one for officers and one for EM; one officers' billet; two EM quarters; one small office building; and a small building for the unit commander. There were also PX buildings and orderly rooms and quarters for the personnel of the headquarters of the Finow troop training grounds.

2. The camp had been occupied by troops since mid-April 1950. [REDACTED] to 7 October 1950. [REDACTED] no troops had left prior

3. [REDACTED]

Document No. 011No Change in Class. ☐☐ Declassified

Class. Changed To: TS S C

Auth.: HR 70-2

Date: 6 JUL 1978

By: [REDACTED]

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4. On 22 September 1950 a light AAA unit with four guns, emplaced in the area northeast of the camp, fired at a towed sleeve target at an altitude of about 1,000 meters. The airplane made several passes over the area, flying east-west at a constant speed. The AAA unit practiced again on 23 September 1950, firing at a sleeve target towed by an airplane circling over the area. Following a burst of fire, three blast clouds were seen below the right wing of the plane and the plane made a forced landing about one kilometer north of Zempow.
5. On 22 and 23 September and 1 and 2 October 1950 artillery units fired southward from the area northwest of Neu Lutterow. The unit which practiced on 22 September 1950 came from Parchim.
6. On 23 September 1950 eighteen T-34 tanks were observed moving toward Zempow along the Branssee-Zempow road. They suddenly received fire from a small patch of woods. The first three tanks counterfired while the other tanks, thus covered, proceeded toward Zempow. The action was part of a major field exercise in which units from Ferleberg, Parchim and Schwerin, among others, participated. \*\*

- 25X1 \* [ ] Comment. According to several reports [ ] and reports on rail movements, elements of the 18th Mecz Div started leaving the Wittstock-Schweinrich maneuver area on 23 September 1950 to participate in the Third Shock Army fall maneuvers held in the Magdeburg-Berlin area in early October 1950. [ ] It is believed that some elements of the division, which were dispensable in the maneuvers, remained in Camp Schweinrich. These units [ ] primarily of the 18th Mecz Div, may have induced [ ] to believe that the camp was still occupied on 7 October 1950. However, [ ] statements that no troops had left the camp until that date is considered erroneous.
- 25X1 25X1 25X1 25X1 \*\* [ ] Comment. It is believed that most of the elements of the 18th Mecz Div and some headquarters units of the IX Mtz Rifle Corps were still in the maneuver area on 23 September 1950.

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